

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FINANCE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 11, 2015
TOWN HALL
6:30 PM**

Board of Selectmen Members Present: David A. Smith, Jr., Chairman
Nadine A. Hawver, Clerk
Rene C. Wood

Finance Committee Members Present: David Steindler, Chairman
Colin Smith, Vice Chairman
John James
David Macy

Finance Committee Members Absent: Jennifer Goewey

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Alicia Dulin, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Chairman Steindler and Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Chairman Steindler stated that he has talked with Jennifer Goewey and she will be resigning from the Finance Committee due to her acceptance of the Executive Director of the Council on Aging position.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Colin Smith stated that he abstained from the vote to approve the December 29, 2014 meeting minutes because he was not present. He asked that the minutes of January 20, 2015 be amended to reflect that change. John James moved to approve the meeting minutes from the January 20, 2015 meeting as amended, seconded by Colin Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:

The Finance Committee members read the Special Town Meeting warrant. Discussion ensued regarding changing the wording in Article 1 to say that the District has been awarded a school construction grant rather than saying the District may be eligible. It was the consensus of the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen to leave the wording of Article 1 on the Special Town Meeting warrant as written. David Macy moved to recommend the approval of the Special Town Meeting Warrant Article 1, seconded by Colin Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator LaBombard explained that the Board of Selectmen have entered into a tax agreement with SH MA Solar, LLC for personal property taxes for a solar project at 66 East Stahl Road. Selectman Wood stated that the amount per kilowatt hour that Sheffield will be receiving is much higher than other municipalities. Chairman Steindler asked the Board of Selectmen if they were happy with the agreement. It was the consensus of the Board that that they were happy with the Agreement. David Macy moved to recommend the approval of the Special Town Meeting Warrant Article 2, seconded by Colin Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator LaBombard stated that Article 3 on the Special Town Meeting warrant should say citizen petition. David Macy moved to take no action on the Special Town Meeting Warrant Article 3, seconded by John James. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding Special Election and the debt exclusion ballot question. Colin Smith moved to recommend a yes vote on the debt exclusion ballot question, seconded by John James. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood suggested having a handout available at the Special Town Meeting to explain what a debt exclusion means.

The Finance Committee looked at the schedule of future meetings. Colin Smith stated that he may have a conflict on February 25, 2015, the rest of the Committee was fine with the meeting schedule.

Administrator LaBombard presented the FY16 budget. She discussed new growth, revenues, overlay surplus, expenditures, fire truck stabilization fund and the estimated property tax rate.

David Macy moved to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting, seconded by John James. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Smith and Chairman Steindler adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin
Assistant to Town Administrator

Documents were reviewed at this meeting:
Minutes from January 20, 2015
Special Town Meeting Warrant
2016 Budget Review Schedule
Draft FY16 Budget